

Message Text

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TAGS: ECON COMECON NATO

SUBJ: ECONADS: TOPIC FOR 1977 NATO ECONOMIC COLLOQUIUM

REF: (A) USNATO 3644, (B) PAPENDORP/WOLFE TELECON, JUNE 29

SUMMARY: QUOTEX BELOW IS ECONADS CHAIRMAN BILLY'S MEMO ON GENERALLY AGREED TOPIC FOR 1977 ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE COLLOQUIUM. MEMBER VIEWS ARE SOUGHT AT JULY 15 ECONADS MEETING. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY THAT DATE.
END SUMMARY.

1. QUOTED BELOW IS ED/EC/76/46, BILLY'S MEMO ON THE PROPOSED COMECON TOPIC FOR THE 1977 COLLOQUIUM, CONTAINING AS WELL A LIST OF ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS BY THE DIRECTORATE SHOULD THERE BE OBJECTION TO DISCUSSION OF COMECON.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF MEMORANDUM

FOLLOWING RECENT DISCUSSIONS ON A SUITABLE THEME FOR 17 1977 COLLOQUIUM, A GENERAL CONSENSUS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN REACHED ON A THREE-DAY ASSESSMENT OF COMECON. THE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE HAS THEREFORE PREPARED A SCHEMATIC OUTLINE OF THE COMECON AREAS IT FEELS SHOULD BE EXAMINED AT THE GATHERING OF OUTSIDE EXPERTS. MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE THE ATTACHED OUTLINE THEIR PROMPT CONSIDERATION AND MAKE A FINAL UNCLASSIFIED

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DECISION ON THE CHOICE OF THIS TOPIC BY 15TH JULY, 1976 AT

SHOULD COMECON STILL APPEAR AS A SUBJECT OF INSUFFICIENT INTEREST TO DELEGATIONS THE VIEWS OF MEMBERS ARE RE-

QUESTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS OF
THE DIRECTORATE WHICH ARE ATTACHED.

OUTLINE OF PROPOSED SUB-TOPICS:

I. INTEGRATION WITHIN COMECON

1. PROGRESS OF INTEGRATION PROGRAMME: PROSPECTS OVER CURRENT
PLAN PERIOD AND PLANS HARMONIZATION.

2. INTRA-COMECON TRADE TRENDS.

3. JOINT ENERGY PROJECTS AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON FUTURE
COMECON ENERGY AUTARCHY AMBITIONS.

4. THE COMECON TRANSPORT SYSTEM - A CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC
VIABILITY WITHIN THE BLOC.

5. ASSESSMENT OF SOVIET INFLUENCE WITHIN COMECON.

II. THE ADMINISTRATION AND STRUCTURE OF COMECON

6. OPERATION AND IMPORTANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT
BANK (IIB) AND THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR ECONOMIC CO-
OPERATION (IBEC), AND THE COMECON QUEST FOR CREDITS.

7. SUPRANATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN COMECON, E.G.
INTERATOMINSTRUMENT, INTERTEKSTIL'MASH, INTERKHIMVOLOKNO,
ECT. AND THEIR FUTURE ROLE.

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

8. COMPARISON OF INTRA-COMECON ECONOMIC POTENTIAL.

9. LIVING STANDARDS.

IV. COMECON AND THE WEST

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10. IMPACT OF COMECON TRADE POLICIES ON EAST-WEST COMMERCIAL
RELATIONS.

LIST OF ALTERNATIVE THEMES FOR THE 1977 COLLOQUIUM

1. THE SYSTEM OF ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT IN THE COMECON COUNTRIES.

2. AGRICULTURE WITHIN COMECON.

3. THE EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF THE COMECON COUNTRIES TO THE WEST.

4. THE STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS OF EAST-WEST TRADE.

5. LONG-TERM GROWTH PROSPECTS IN THE USSR.END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: FURTHER GUIDANCE, (IF NECESSARY,
TO THE REF B CONCURRENCE IN GOING ALONG WITH THE CONSENSUS
REPORTED IN REF A) IN TIME FOR JULY 15 ECONADS MEETING.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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